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widespread attention is the construction industry.

In North Carolina's largest cities in 1981, building permits issued for single-family homes dropped 8 per cent, and total construction activity declined 4.9 per cent, when compared to 1980 according to State Labor Commissioner John C. Brooks.

Brooks has released December, 1981 figures for construction authorized in 75 Tar Heel counties. Surprising enough is the fact that Chowan, (364,258), ranked third behind Dare (4,114,968) and Currituck (426,189).

Permits to build in the Isle of Pasquotank totaled a mere \$58,850 during December, 1981, and in neighboring Washington a total of \$99,300.

There has no doubt been little improvement in the construction industry along the Public Parade during the first quarter of 1982. And it might get substantially worse if the Town of Edenton doesn't get something worked out with the State Environmental Management Commission. The EMC has put a firm hold on any development which increases the amount of waste water which goes into the municipal sewer system.

The town has a treatment plant operating at 80 per cent efficiency and is moving rapidly ahead to have a system engineered which will meet necessary standards for affluent. This work is vital to three health care projects here: a Senior Citizens Village by Retirement Concepts, Inc.; an expansion to ElderLodge on Paradise Road; and expansion of Chowan Hospital. There is other construction, such as single and multi-family units and business development which hinges on having proper wastewater treatment.

Town Administrator Sam Noble argued before the EMC in Raleigh in January that the town must have an expanded tax base in order to finance any new treatment scheme. And he is certainly right. Playing the chicken and-or egg game won't suffice and the community should get behind the Town Council in moving ahead. We are all in this together and it will take the best efforts of all to drown out the construction blues in the future.

## New Hospital Construction To Begin

New construction, plus major renovations to the existing structure, begins around May 1 at Chowan Hospital in Edenton, with Miller Building Corporation of Wilmington as general contractor.

The project, awarded on a competitive bid basis, is scheduled for completion in the spring of 1983, at a cost of \$1.1-million.

In addition to extensive changes and remodeling, new construction will add 17,000 square feet of space. On the first floor, there will be a new Emergency Room reception area, plus expanding and re-locating the Emergency entrance, with a new driveway and loading area. Also, a hydrotherapy section will be added on the first floor. Major changes on the first floor will include renovations and remodeling of the administrative and kitchen areas, including new ceilings, and new equipment for the kitchen.

The hospital's pharmacy department will be re-located on



**RECEIVE AWARD** — Flynn Surratt, right, of WCDJ Radio in Edenton receives a certificate of appreciation from Robert Gordon, Chairman of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. WCDJ has allowed the commission to produce a weekly wildlife program in their studios.

## Surratt Gets Special Commendation

The management of WCDJ Radio Station was presented a certificate of appreciation from The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission at its Annual Public Hearing Meeting held at the old Chowan County Courthouse on April 19. The presentation was made by Robert Gordon, Chairman of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Accepting the award for WCDJ was Flynn Surratt, News Editor for the station.

The management of WCDJ has allowed the commission to produce the weekly wildlife radio program "Outdoors In Eastern North Carolina" at their studios

The program provides information to the sportsmen and is aired throughout eastern North Carolina by 54 radio stations.

Mike Overton, Conservation Education Representative for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and producer of the wildlife program, said, "I would like to thank the management at WCDJ for allowing the wildlife program to be produced at their studios. Also, I would like to thank very much Flynn Surratt for his assistance in helping make "Outdoors In Eastern North Carolina" the number one wildlife radio program in Eastern North Carolina.

## Judge Maurice Braswell Presides

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Laverne Holley.

Seth Lee Shannonhouse, shoplifting and resisting arrest, 6 months suspended 2 years on supervised probation, \$25 fine and cost of court in each case, told not to move or change his place of residence without written permission from his Probation Officer.

Grandy White, Jr., operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, remanded to District Court where he received 90 days suspended 2 years, \$100 fine and cost of court, surrender his operator's license,

and attend Alcohol-Drug Education School.

William Edward Bond, three counts of no operator's license, 30 days suspended 2 years, \$50 fine and cost of court, ordered not to operate a motor vehicle until licensed to do so.

On Wednesday, these cases were heard.

Emmitt H. Wiggins, motion to quash warrant was allowed.

John Willie Jackson, order to terminate probation allowed.

Michael Rankins, felonious aid and abet breaking and entering and felonious aid and abet larceny, 5 years in the N.C. Dept. of Corrections, be given a diagnostic study for possible mental problems and treatment as indicated before commitment. Credit was given for 14 days.

Kenneth Eddie Gibbs, issuing a forged check, given a maximum of 2 years and a minimum of 2 years in the N.C. Dept. of Corrections, and a restitution of \$268.96 to Bank of N.C. Credit was given for 71 days.

John Rankins, DUI and failure to stop for a siren, remanded to District Court where he received 90 days suspended 2 years, \$200 fine, cost of court in each case, surrender operator's license and reimburse the State of N.C. for his court appointed attorney's fee.

William Elton Boswell, Jr., speeding in excess of 80 MPH in a 55 MPH zone, 60 days suspended 1 year. Ordered to present himself to the custodian of the Chowan Co. Detention Facility to be confined from 12 noon on April 10 until 6 A.M. on April 11, then confined from 12 noon on April 17 until 6 A.M. on April 18.

Joe T. Jones, Jr., failure to wear a safety helmet, careless and reckless driving, driving while license revoked, speeding in excess of 75 MPH in a 55 MPH zone, speeding to elude arrest, he was found not guilty.

Herman Holley, Jr., trespassing, dismissed.

## Council Approves

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a taxicab in Edenton.

Ralph Parrish was authorized by the Council to advertise for a public hearing to be held on May 11, concerning amendment of the "Town of Edenton Zoning Ordinance" to allow game rooms in all commercial districts.

Following the payment of Town bills, the meeting was adjourned.

## Educators

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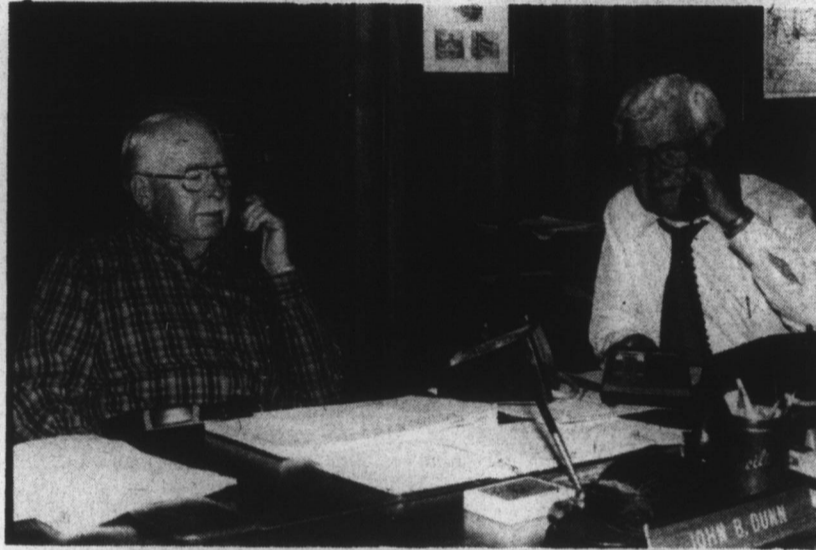
of Singing Teachers which has a national membership of only 34 scholars.

Mrs. Bair was a member of the fine arts faculty at the college from 1965 until her retirement last summer. Following her husband's retirement in 1972, she served as chairman of the department.

She is a former member of the Edenton Historical Commission. In 1973, and again in 1975, she was named COA's Outstanding Teacher. In 1975, she was honored as the Elizabeth City Musician of the Year.

She holds membership in a number of musical and historical organizations. Included among these are: American Guild Organists, the National Society of Colonial Dames of America, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Wachovia Historical Association, and the Pasquotank Historical Association.

Both scholars are well-known in the area for their work with the COA Choral and involvement with community theater musical productions. For many years, they have been responsible for organizing and presenting the impressive Moravian Love Feast during the holiday season.



**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** — The Symphony Board readies for their membership round-up. E. L. Hollowell and Bill Pierce, manning their respective telephones, are all set for the Food Town telethon!

## Food Town Offers Unique Deal To Symphony Fans

If you bought a ticket to see the North Carolina symphony in their recent Edenton concert, you have a unique chance to help bring them back next year that's almost too simple to be believed! The Edenton Chapter of the symphony is attempting to contact all members, and according to their by-laws anyone who purchased a ticket to the January concert is a member in good standing. Those persons who responded to the September membership drive were recorded and will be contacted, but anyone purchasing a ticket up to and including the night of the concert is very much needed for their upcoming fund drive.

Food Town has graciously helped set up an event that can be most beneficial to the symphony with a minimum of effort on the part of local citizens. All that is required of members is that they shop at Food Town May 3, 4, and-or 5 and get a neighbor to do the same. Then, by turning in their signed receipts, they make the symphony eligible for 5 percent of the total bill. If the 400 plus members and 400 neighbors submit two tapes each averaging \$25, the Edenton Chapter of the N.C. Symphony will collect \$2000. Obviously the more groceries members buy, the more the symphony will earn.

On April 27, board members will hold a telethon to call all local members and remind them to participate. Anyone not receiving a call who is eligible, please contact Mary Rhea Gardner (482-4436), Terry Wackelin (482-2792), or Mae Wadsworth (482-2773). They will also be happy to answer any questions concerning the "contest".

This is such a simple way to benefit our county school children by providing free concerts for them, and it doesn't cost an extra cent. So please, all persons who purchased a ticket for the January 28 N.C. Symphony concert start making your shopping lists now and plan to turn out to Food Town



**MYSTERY PLANE** — The above plane, a twin-engine Cessna, is being held by U.S. Customs for illegal entry into the U.S. One prop on the plane has been damaged. The pilot has not yet returned to the mystery plane.

## Plane Seized For Illegal Entry

The Chowan County Sheriff's Dept. reported that an airplane suspected of illegal trafficking is being held at Edenton Municipal Airport by U.S. Customs for illegal entry into the United States.

The twin-engined Cessna was first spotted beyond a 200 mile area headed toward the United States. U.S. planes were scrambled immediately, and after it was determined that the plane was not a danger, the Customs office in

Wilmington, N.C. was notified. They started tracking the plane by radar, but it disappeared from the radar screen somewhere over the North Carolina coast.

On April 12, Jessie Childs at the Edenton Airport notified the Chowan Co. Sheriff's Dept. about a twin engine Cessna that had been at the airport since Friday night (April 9).

After checking the plane, Custom's agents and the S.B.I. was notified by the Sheriff's Dept. It is thought that the plane has been used for some illegal act. The investigator's noted that one prop on the plane had been damaged.

At the present time, no pilot has returned to pick up the plane. It is believed that the pilot of the mystery plane spent Friday night at the Coach House Inn. The investigation is still continuing.

## Mr. Elliott, 28 Accident Victim

Wallace Elliott, Jr., 28, of Rt. 1, Tyner was killed Sunday morning when the vehicle he was driving was struck by a car driven by Curtis M. Thomas, 33, of Elizabeth City. The accident occurred on U.S. 17 about six miles north of Hertford.

According to State Trooper Charles Mims, Elliott was traveling south on the newly re-paved section of the highway, a section that had not yet been repainted with center or side lines. The report filed by Mims indicated that Thomas was travelling north and apparently drifted left into the path of Elliott's 1969 Chevrolet, striking it head-on.

Mims estimated the speed of both cars as being near the 55 miles per hour speed limit at the time of the accident. It had been raining in the area prior to the wreck and there were no skid marks on the wet pavement before the collision.

Elliott was immediately taken to Albemarle Hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Thomas, pinned in his 1979 Pontiac Firebird for approximately 90 minutes before being freed by rescue workers, was taken to Albemarle Hospital and treated for a broken leg and chest injuries. He was reported in good condition Monday morning. There were no other passengers in either car.

## District Cited For Noncompliance

North Carolina's proposed Second Senatorial District, of which Chowan County is a part, was cited Monday by the U. S. Department of Justice as failing to comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1965. Federal officials said both the state House and Senate redistricting plans tended to reduce black voting strength in eastern districts.

This was the second time in five months that the plans had been sent back to the General Assembly as being insufficient to comply with federal law.

Monday's action will further delay local as well as state and federal primary elections, originally set for May 4. The General Assembly has enacted a law which prohibits any primary election until the federal government has approved all redistricting plans.

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